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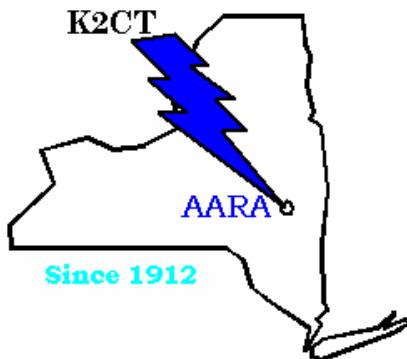
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Affiliated with the American Radio Relay League
An ARRL Special Services Club

AARA

Meets at the
Colonie Community Center
1653 Central Ave. Colonie

Fri day FEB 11

Social Hour 6:55 PM
Meeting 7:45 PM
refreshments
soda, diet soda, coffee

K2CT Repeater

**Talk-in repeater
145.19 (-) MHz
pl tone 100.0hz**

or

444.30 (+) w/pl tone 100.0hz

**Please Note: AARA Annual Dinner
Friday April 8, 2005**

AARA Dues

Dues are \$15 with
B-PLUS available at the K2CT Web page in
.pdf format www.k2ct.net

OR \$20 for first class mailing of the
newsletter Checks should be made out to
AARA and sent to: Saul Abrams, K2XA,
307 Maple Rd., Slingerlands, NY 12159

FEB. Meeting

AARA February meeting will feature a **flee market**. Doors will open at 7 pm. Space is limited, so please stick to ham and computer items. **REMEMBER, IF YOU BROUGHT IT AND DIDN'T SELL IT, YOU TAKE IT HOME.**

Please do not leave anything in the meeting room. A short meeting will follow.

SWAP SHOP

Send items to B-Plus editor, Mike, WD2AJS at wd2ajs@arrl.net or call 489-3110

SWAP: Hughes Network Systems Elliptical Satellite Dish (35" w X 22" t) and fixed pole mount (with both DSS and FSS LNB's attached (condition unknown). Free (or for swap credit towards used 2 m equipment). Contact Bryan (KC2NIF) at Bryan88@yahoo.com

..DXCC..

I'm looking for DXCC statistics from AARA club members. Here's what I have so far.

	Current	Total	Countries needed
K2XF	335	343	
K2XA	334	346	BS7
K2EP	332	337	BS7, VU4, VU7
WK2H	329		4W, BS7, E4, FO/M, P5, VU4
K2ONP	327	332	FR/G, FR/J, FT/X, VK9X, YV0, ZL8, ZS8
W2GDJ	313		3C0, 7O, BS7, FR/G, FR/J, FT5W, FT5X, FT5Z, KH7, KP1, KP5, ST, T5, VU4, VU7, YV0, ZS8
K2BX	311	315	
N1JP	300		
NA2NA	186	188	

I will update the list every few months. If you need ten or less countries, include a list of them. If you have any other DX awards (dxcc, 5bdxcc, waz, challenge), send me a list and will publish them in B+. K2EP@arrl.net 73, Ernie K2EP

This Week in Amateur Radio

For more information see the TWIAR web site. <http://www.twiar.org>

AARA Annual Dinner

Friday April 8, 2005

at the Shaker Ridge Country Club.
Cash Bar Cocktails 6:00 PM to End
Dinner 7:00 PM

Choice of:

- 1.) Cranberry Harvest Chicken,
- 2.) Prime Rib of Beef au Jus,
- 3.) Char Grilled Salmon Filet.

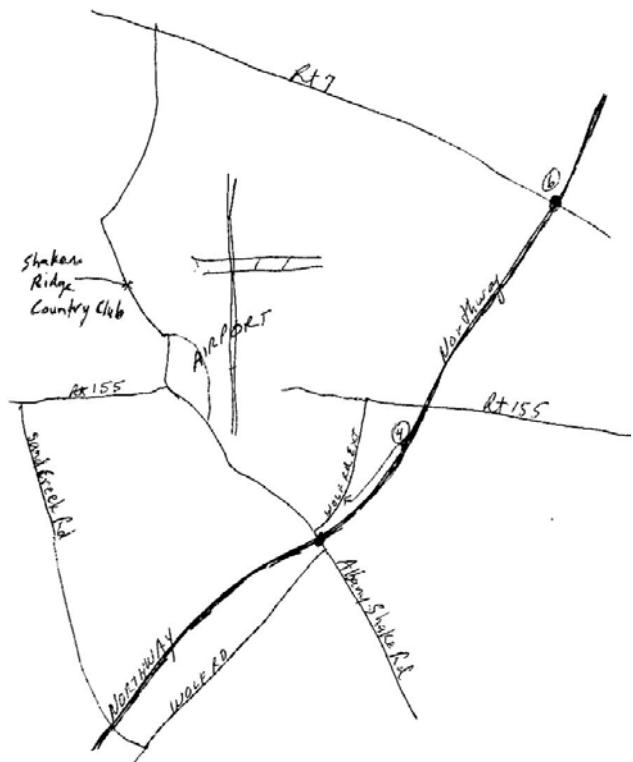
\$25.00 per person (please pay in advance)
If you know for sure you are coming let WF2B know
at WF2B@verizon.net

Send checks (made out to AARA) to:

Bud Hovey
15 Sylvan Lane
Troy, NY 12180-8542

Bud expects to be at both the February and March meetings and will accept checks or cash at that time.

Bud Hovey, WF2B



DXCC LISTINGS NOW AVAILABLE ON THE ARRL WEB SITE

The ARRL Letter Vol. 24, No. 04 Jan. 28, 2005

The ARRL Web site now features up-to-date listings of DXCC awards earned. The new system shows every issued DXCC award known to ARRL's computerized DXCC system, with the exception of individual standings for 5BDXCC. ARRL Membership Services Manager Wayne Mills, N7NG, says the Web site listing is even more complete than the DXCC Yearbook ever was, since the printed list did not list inactive band-accounts for the previous year.

"This will list everything and everybody," Mills emphasized. "The new system makes available a separate listing for each DXCC award type--band or mode." Even more important, Mills notes, is that it essentially renders obsolete the manually generated monthly and yearly reports. "Under the new system, DXCC listings will be updated daily," he emphasized.

The DXCC standings of all ARRL members will remain in dark type. Call signs of non-members who have not submitted credits for 10 years or more are in grayed-out type.

Each listing by band or mode is complete in a separate Adobe PDF file. The largest listing (DXCC Mixed) now runs to more than 50 pages, but the size of the PDF file is only about 150 kbytes because of file compression. Printing format options include US letter-sized or ISO A4 paper.

The DXCC listings can be found at
<http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/#listings>.

On 146.94 MHz Repeater from
6:30-8:00 AM Jock, KB2GOM runs a
2-meter Commuter Net.

During severe inclement weather,
June, KB2JTG runs a 2-meter
Commuter Net from 4:00-6:00 PM

Public Service:

Volunteer CONTACT John, WE2F at 283-4304
AARA WE Need YOU to Volunteer AARA

www.k2ct.net

WE are looking for pictures of your
Ham Shack

Send pictures to Peter, N2KAD

Please try the new site and let me know
what you think. If you have any feedback
please let me know.

73, Peter Hines, N2KAD, webmaster
hines@nycap.rr.com with any suggestions.

ATTENTION AARA CONTESTERS!

*** HF CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT ***

The **2005 ARRL International DX Contest** is coming! The CW weekend is February 19-20 and the Phone weekend is March 5-6. Get on, have some fun, and send us your scores for publication in B-Plus!

Send us your call, entry category, mode, power level, number of QSOs, number of country multipliers, and claimed score.

Send all of the above to:
sue.walt@verizon.net

See you in the pileups!

73,
Walt, WA1KKM and Sue, N2LBR

ARRL VOLUNTEERS, PRB-1 HELP MIDWESTERN AMATEURS GET TOWER PERMITS

The ARRL Letter Vol. 24, No. 03 Jan. 21, 2005

Two Midwestern radio amateurs have succeeded in their efforts to be allowed to erect antenna support structures on their residential properties. Both cases hinged largely on the requirement of the limited federal preemption known as PRB-1 that localities "reasonably accommodate" Amateur Radio communication with "minimum practicable regulation." As a result, city officials in Wheaton, Illinois, have granted John Siepmann, N9NA, a permit to build a 42-foot tower in his back yard. And in Ohio, Brian "Tim" McGraw, W8BTM, got the okay from the Colerain Township Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) to erect a 48-foot tower on his property.

"It all started with Hank Greeb, N8XX, who organized the ham radio community, researched the applicable laws and fully utilized all ARRL resources all toward achieving this victory," Ohio Section Manager Joe Phillips, K8QOE, said of the W8BTM case. "More than anything else, it was Hank's single commitment to see this through that made this a win for ham radio." Greeb serves as an ARRL Volunteer Consulting Engineer in the Great Lakes Division.

More than two dozen neighbors had signed a petition and presented their opposition at the hearing in early December. Thirty radio amateurs showed up for the session, and many spoke in support of McGraw's application, however. In addition, ARRL Great Lakes Division Director Jim Weaver, K8JE, supplied applicable case law for the hearing, while Ohio Assistant SM Bob Winston, W2THU, offered legal advice. Professional engineer Herb Nichols, W8HRN, twice testified to the technical aspects of McGraw's plans, Phillips said. The BZA's December 15 decision was unanimous.

Greeb said the township's lawyer advised that the BZA was not the proper forum to consider McGraw's application and that guidance must come instead from the trustees. He suggested that the trustees need to develop guidelines regarding permissible structure heights for future applications. None exist in the Rural Zoning Commission's regulations, which provide the basis for Colerain Township's zoning regulations.

"While it is a bit unclear as to how the township will proceed," Greeb commented, "we look forward to working with its elected officials and its designees to set guidance in the new zoning regulations, which are currently under consideration by the township."

In Illinois, Siepmann's application for a 65-foot free-standing structure faced opposition from his neighbors, who apparently feared that the presence of the antenna support structure would lower property values and lead to TV and telephone interference.

"This permit was issued in spite of a 100-plus neighbor signature 12-point petition to the city not to allow the tower, as well as the erection of approximately 75 neighbor lawn signs with 'NO RADIO TOWER' emblazoned across their faces," Siepmann told ARRL. "The signs were placed on lawns as far away as one mile from our home, which is in a quiet, mature and leafy subdivision in Wheaton." Representing Siepmann was ARRL Volunteer Counsel and well-known Amateur Radio antenna advocate Jim O'Connell, W9WU.

News reports say City Attorney Jim Knippen told city council members December 6 that because of PRB-1, Wheaton would lose any court case and had no choice but to issue Siepmann a permit for a tower. The city compromised on its height, however. O'Connell says the city came up with 42 feet by adding Wheaton's present 12-foot "Over the Air Television Receiving Dish" (OTARD) antenna height limit to its 30-foot height limit for a single-family dwelling. O'Connell says a number of short towers already are in place in Wheaton, and the city even had a 65-foot antenna tower ordinance until several years ago, when it "simply disappeared one day."

B-PLUS March deadline is Feb. 26th.

Are You Changing Your Address: Please contact Bill, K2BX with your address corrections: Bill Nettleton, K2BX 7 Frederick Pl., Troy, NY 12180 or e-mail at k2bx@arrl.net

edited by Mike Bergman, WD2AJS, 45 Swartson Ct., Albany, NY 12209 489-3110. **Articles** and B-PLUS **Swap Shop items** accepted and solicited via mail, phone, or e-mail to wd2ajs@arrl.net
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